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United States Senate

August 8, 2018

Phil Keith
Director
Office of Community Oriented Policing Services
United States Department of Justice
145 N Street, NE
Washington, DC 20530

*Re: City of Fort Wayne Application for Funding from the STOP School Violence: School
Violence Prevention Program – FOA #COPS-SVPP-APPLICATION-2018*

Dear Mr. Keith:


As Senator from the State of Indiana, I believe it is imperative that all students are able to learn in a safe environment, free from the anxiety of potential violence. The City of Fort Wayne Police Department (FWPD) and Fort Wayne Community Schools (FWCS) are working together to increase school security and enhance public safety response capabilities in the event of a violent situation at one of its school campuses.

Fort Wayne, located in northeast Indiana, is the second largest city in the state, with a population of nearly 265,000 residents. Fort Wayne Community Schools is the second largest school system in Indiana. Over the years, FWCS has worked with FWPD and other city agencies to proactively develop and implement a variety of programs to ensure the safety of its students. However, current security cameras are outdated, and in many cases, failing despite maintenance and repair.

Funding from the SVPP program will enable FWCS and FWPD to replace an analog video camera system with a new IP camera system that will provide a superior field of view, visual clarity and the capability to remotely view a scene in real time. This technology will give them the ability to provide improved assessment and response to a wide range of public safety situations at the schools.

I respectfully request that you grant every consideration consistent with U.S. law and public policy to the Fort Wayne grant application. I would appreciate being informed when a decision about this grant is announced. Questions and announcements can be directed to my office at Marianne_Black@donnelly.senate.gov or by telephone at 317.226.5555.

Sincerely,



Joe Donnelly
United States Senator